

## Michigan Department of Community Health Bureau of Laboratories

May 5, 2005

Re: Ongoing ***S. marcescens*** and ***Cyclospora*** Investigations

March 21, a fax was sent alerting clinical labs to *Serratia marcescens* contamination of magnesium sulfate IV solutions from PharMEDium. The CDC and FDA have obtained new information in their ongoing investigation. Because evidence exists that implicates at least three contaminated lots, the CDC recommends that magnesium sulfate solution from PharMEDium not be administered to patients until further notice.

**Laboratory Action:** Please continue to save any *S. marcescens* isolates from blood cultures that may have been associated with the use of this product for possible further testing by MDCH. Contact Dr. James Rudrik, Microbiology Section Manager, Bureau of Laboratories at 517-335-8063 and/or Teri Lee Dyke, Bureau of Epidemiology at 517-335-8165.

Florida is investigating an increase in *Cyclospora* infections. *Cyclospora* is a single-celled parasite with an incubation period of approximately one week, typically causing "flu-like" illness with nausea, vomiting, anorexia, weight loss, and explosive watery diarrhea lasting 1 to 3 weeks. All cases of *Cyclospora* are reportable to the health department, and any that may be associated with travel to Florida are of particular interest.

**Laboratory Action:** Please continue to report cases of *Cyclospora* to your local health department, and alert members of your infection control/ infectious disease team to consider travel to Florida when taking patient history. *Cyclospora* can be detected by modified acid-fast staining of formalin-preserved specimens. MDCH can perform this testing or confirm a suspicious result. Please contact Dr. James Rudrik, Microbiology Section Manager, Bureau of Laboratories at 517-335-8063. An excellent review of *Cyclospora* infection, including laboratory diagnosis and microscopic images can be found on the CDC DPDx website at <http://www.dpd.cdc.gov/DPDx/>

### Save the Date

"Hepatitis C: Collaboratively Confronting the Challenge"  
October 27, 2005 Ypsilanti Marriott at Eagle Crest

Patricia Somsel, Dr. P.H.  
Director, Div. Infectious Diseases  
517-335-8067  
[somselp@michigan.gov](mailto:somselp@michigan.gov)

Martha Boehme, MT  
Outreach Microbiologist  
517-335-9654  
[boehmem@michigan.gov](mailto:boehmem@michigan.gov)

View previous communications at <http://www.michigan.gov/mdchlab>